



IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Albert K. Chin  
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TITLE: Apparatus and Methods for Subxiphoid Endoscopic Access  
EXAMINER: Thomas C. Barrett  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3738  
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 80121-07179

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date shown below:

Dated: 8/15/05 By: *Albert C. Smith*  
Albert C. Smith, Reg. No.: 20,355

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
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AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the official action dated December 16, 2004 received in the patent application identified above, please amend the claims in the subject application as set forth herein.